

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 IO-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 DPW-01

AID-20 ACDA-19 NIC-01 DRC-01 /155 W

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O 131657Z MAY 74

FM USDEL JEC PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH IMMEDIATE 0195

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: VN, PINT

SUBJECT: GVN-PRG BILATERALS: PRG SUSPENDS TALKS

"INDEFINITELY"

1. GVNDL WAS INFORMED BY PRGDEL LIAISON OFFICER MAY 13 THAT THE PRG WAS WITHDRAWING FROM THE LA CELLE ST. CLOUD TALKS "COMPLETELY AND INDEFINITELY". WHEN ASKED TO DEFINE "INDEFINITELY", THE PRGDEL LIAISON OFFICER STATED THAT HIS SIDE'S PARTICIPATION WOULD NOT BE RESUMED UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE GVN "CEASED ITS SABOTAGE OF THE DISCUSSIONS".

2. IN A STATEMENT SENT TO GOF, PRGDEL SAID THAT NOT ONLY GVN CESSATION OF "SABOTAGE" BUT ALSO GVN ADOPTION OF AN "ATTITUDE" AT THE TALKS CONSISTENT WITH REACHING SOLUTIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE AGREEMENT AND PRG MARCH 22 PROPOSALS WOULD BE PREREQUISITE TO RESUMPTION OF THE BILATERALS.

3. THEREAFTER GVNDL ISSUED A PRESS COMMUNIQUE DENOUNCING THE PRG ACTION AS A UNILATERAL MANEUVER

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DISRUPTIVE OF THE SPIRIT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND IN

FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE AGREEMENT. THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO HELD THAT THE PRG HAD BY THIS MOVE CLEARLY OPTED FOR SOLUTION OF THE VIET-NAM PROBLEM BY ARMED CLASH RATHER THAN BY NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

4. PRGDEL HAS ANNOUNCED THAT NGUYEN VAN HIEU IS RETURNING TO SVN IN THE NEAR FUTURE. (ADDRESSEES WILL NOTE THAT BOTH THE SUSPENSION AND HIEU'S INTENDED DEPARTURE ARE COMPLETELY AT VARIANCE WITH ASSURANCES GIVEN THE PRESS BY SPOKESMAN THAO AS LATE AS MAY 10 -- REF. USDEL JEC 11409).

5. COMMENT. PHONG, ACTING CHIEF, GVNDEL, ADMITTED TO US THAT HE WAS SURPRISED BY THE PRG DECISION. HE INTERPRETED IT AS YET ANOTHER IN A CHAIN OF DRV-PRG MOVES DESIGNED TO OCCASION A NEW US-DRV MEETING SO AS TO ESTABLISH A NEW CEASEFIRE IN THE SOUTH. PHONG HAS NOT YET RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM SAIGON, BUT HE DOES NOT ANTICIPATE THAT THE GVNDEL WILL BE RETURNED HOME. NOR, FOR THAT MATTER, DOES HE ANTICIPATE THAT ANY FURTHER PRGDEL DEPARTURES OTHER THAN HIEU'S WILL TAKE PLACE. END COMMENT.
WILLIAMS

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